

VICTORIA WIDENER

Wardrobe Technician, Master Stitcher and Assistant Designer
602.882.8069 | v.widener@gmail.com

Techniques/Skills Styling, dressing, tailoring, hand finishing, draping, flat patternmaking, hand embroidery, leatherwork, steel boning, textile dying and printing, rhinestoning, beading, steaming, ironing, quick changes, knowledge of the backstage environment

Equipment JUKI, Bernina, Consew, Pfaff industrial and domestic machines, Janome coverstitch, Industrial blind hemmer, Jiffy and domestic steamers, Gravity feed and domestic irons

Work Experience

Contractor/Lead Dresser/Stitcher

American Theatre Guild, *Phoenix, AZ* • 10/2010-Present

- Help actors navigate the theater space, assist them during 30-second garment changes, and prep and repair their garments before shows.

Wardrobe Crew/Stitcher

Rhino Staging, *Phoenix, AZ* • 09/2014-Present

- Assisting touring concerts and shows in prepping costumes, running quick changes and striking completed looks.
- Repairing or altering garments as needed.

Educator, Theater Department

Mesa Community College, *Mesa, AZ* • 08/2019-05/2023

- Introduction to Sewing: Instructed students in how to use a domestic sewing machine, utilize hand sewing techniques for closures and hems, trace and cut patterns, add seam allowances, and stitch to completion an "Ugly Bodice."
- Theatre Production I Costume Shop: Giving students hands-on experience creating costumes for the shows being produced during the ongoing semester including the theater, musical theater and dance department.

Tailor

Reputation and Eras Tour for Taylor Swift, *Glendale, AZ* • 05/2018 and 03/2023

- Working directly with the design and stylist team to alter and add embellishment (rhinestone, beading and sequin application) to background dancer and Taylor Swift's costumes.

Dresser

Super Bowl LVII, *Glendale, AZ* • 01/2023-02/2023

- Fitting, stitching and styling 202 Field Dancers for the LVII Super Bowl Half Time show featuring Rhianna.

Master Stitcher

The Phoenix Theater Company, *Phoenix, AZ* • 01/2019-01/2023

- Assisting designers in pulling garments for cast members based on time period and designer direction.
- Construct new builds of garments and accessories with embellishments and details that can withstand extreme use and washing.

Master Stitcher/Costume Designer

Arizona Opera, *Phoenix, AZ* • 09/2014-04/2018

- Constructed garments for the five-show season and other opera companies, created build instructions for other stitchers, updated build lists, and maintained production timelines.
- Designed and created versatile and innovative costumes for the touring OperaTunity show that performed at Arizona middle schools, like headpieces to denote animals and trick skirts to denote a mermaid becoming a person.

Assistant Designer

Adriana Diaz, *Phoenix, AZ* • Summer 2014

- Assisted in purchase of fabric in the Los Angeles fabric district, as well as sourcing and shopping clothing items in Phoenix, Arizona for The Phoenix Theatre Company production of *Memphis* and the Childsplay production of *Charlotte's Web*.

Craft Work

The Phoenix Theatre Company, *Phoenix, AZ* • 11/2010-06/2014

- Altered purchased clothes, built garments, and created specific craft pieces and headwear.
- Constructed complex garments like a deer headdresses for the world premiere of *When You Wish*, pajama pants large enough for a person to tap dance inside of for *Billy Elliot*, and custom hats for *Newsies*.

Education

Bachelor of Science—Textiles & Apparel Design

University of Wisconsin-Madison

09/2005-05/2009

3.773 GPA; Graduated with Distinction; Phi Kappa Phi and Phi Eta Sigma

Associate of Arts—Fashion Design

Fashion Institute of Technology (SUNY)

09/2008-05/2009

Summa Cum Laude